

COMMITTEE ON BORDER RELATIONS
MEETING MINUTES
MAYORS BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL, 10TH FLOOR
TUESDAY, August 2, 2011 4:00 PM.

The Committee on Border Relations met at the above place and date.

AGENDA

1. Establish Quorum and Call to Order
 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2011 – [Chair Kathleen Walker]
 3. Discussion and action: Update on the Regional Ports of Entries Operations Plan – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 4. Update on the Master Regional Ports of Entry Operations Plan – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 5. Proposed Infrastructure Improvements – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 6. New Facilities and Service Enhancements – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 7. Reduced Tolls for Tractors and Empty Commercial Trucks at Zaragoza – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 8. Parking Meters Upgrade and Program Expansion – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 9. Use of Off-Duty PD Officers to Mitigate Congestion Problems at the Ports of Entries – [Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., IBD]
 10. Bridge Management Report – [IBD, Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E.]:
 - a. Traffic, Toll Revenue and Parking Meters Report
 - b. Stanton and Paso Del Norte Project
 11. **OPEN COMMENT PERIOD:** At the conclusion of all other agenda items, the Committee will allow an open comment period not to exceed thirty minutes, to receive public comment on any matter under the jurisdiction of the Committee. No action will be taken. Speakers in the audience will be allowed a maximum of three minutes and must be signed up prior to the beginning of the open comment period.
 12. Adjournment
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Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Kathleen Walker called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Mr. Carmichael arrived at 4:11 pm.

PRESENT:

Mark Barnett – D-2
Stephanie Caviness – D-1
Gerald Smola – D-4
Tom Fullerton- D-3
Laird Carmichael – D-7
Kathleen Walker – Mayor

ABSENT:

Angelica Quintanilla – D-8
Fernando Quintana – D-5
Romaree Herbert – D-7

OTHERS PRESENT

Said Larbi-Cherif – International Bridges
Jane Shang – COEP
Diana Nunez - COEP
Silvia Firth – COEP
Albert Barnes – CBP
Hector Mancha – CBP
Jimena Cortes – Mexican Consulate
Kathleen Neal - BTA

All present introduced themselves to the board. Mr. Mancha the new Port Director for CBP introduced himself and gave a brief background of his work experience.

Item 2: Approval Of Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2011

Motion made by Ms. Caviness, seconded by Mr. Carmichael and carried to approve the minutes of April 19, 2011.

AYES Mr. Carmichael, Ms. Caviness, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Barnett, Ms. Walker, Mr. Smola,

NAYS: None

Item 3: Discussion and action: Update on the Master Regional Ports of Entry Operations Plan

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on the Master Regional Ports of Entry Operations Plan. Discussion followed.

Item 4: Bridge Management Report

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented reports and updates on traffic, toll revenue, parking meters, reduced tolls for empty tractors and empty tractor-trailers at the Zaragoza Bridge, bridges concessions RFI responses, parking meters upgrade, and the Stanton and Paso Del Norte Project. Discussion followed.

Item 5: Proposed Infrastructure Improvements

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on the proposed infrastructure improvements for the Bridge of the Americas and the Zaragoza Bridge. Discussion followed.

Item 6: New Facilities and Service Enhancements

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented a report on the new facilities and service enhancements for the International Bridges. Discussion followed.

Item 7: Reduced Tolls for Tractors and Empty Commercial Trucks at Zaragoza

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on the reduced tolls for empty commercial trucks at the Zaragoza Bridge. Discussion followed.

Item 8: Parking Meters Upgrade and Program Expansion

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on the parking meter program upgrade and expansion. Discussion followed.

Item 9: Use of Off-Duty PD Officers to Mitigate Congestion Problems at the Ports of Entries

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented a report on the use of off-duty police officers to help with congestion problems at the ports of entries. Discussion followed.

Item 10: Bridge Management Report

a. Traffic, Toll Revenue and Parking Meters Report

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on traffic, toll revenue and parking meters. Discussion followed.

b. Stanton and Paso Del Norte Project

Mr. Said Larbi-Cherif presented an update on the Stanton and Paso Del Norte Project. Discussion followed.

Ms. Stephanie Caviness requested that an item regarding the city's BTA membership to be placed on the next CBR agenda.

Motion made by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Fullerton and carried to adjourn the meeting.

AYES Mr. Carmichael, Ms. Caviness, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. Barnett, Ms. Walker, Mr. Smola,

NAYS: None

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Approved as to form:

Said Larbi-Cherif, P.E., Board Secretary